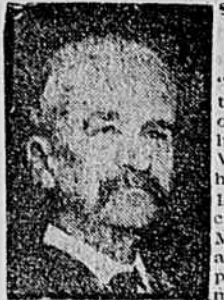


WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY

Saturday, September 13, 1913.



Sowing Oats and Clover.

Surry County: "Please advise as to the best variety of oats to sow and how many an acre. What fertilizer and how much? Could I sow crimson clover with oats? My land is light, and having a small piece, I want to make all possible use of it." For your section I would sow the Virginia Gray turf oats, as they are more hardy than many other kinds. If you wish the oats for grain, the clover will be dead before the oats ripen. But, of course, the clover will help the soil. Sown for hay the clover and oats will make a fine hay crop, cut as soon as the clover blooms. What fertilizer should be used always depends on the condition of the soil. You only tell me your land is light, and I take for granted that it is not fertile. I always sowed two bushels of oats an acre when I was growing oats on a stock farm. Sowing with clover I would sow 10 pounds of the clover, soon after the oats are drilled in. You can get a ready-made fertilizer that will run about 45-1-4 and use 200 pounds an acre on the oats.

Mecklenburg County: "I have set in cabbages on a little plot where an old house stood, but used no fertilizer at planting. What will be good for them?" I will set some Prizekaters and Tall Queen onion sets, what fertilizer for these? The plot that you say is fifty feet square where the house stood, will be nearly one-seventh of an acre. An acre of cabbages should have fully 1,000 pounds of a fertilizer strong in nitrogen and potash. This would be about fifty-nine pounds of fertilizer. For either the cabbage or the onions the following will be good. Acid phosphate, 900 pounds; nitrate of soda, 100 pounds; cottonseed meal, fish scrap, 600 pounds, and muriate of potash, 400 pounds to make a ton.

Cherry Trees Rusting. Prince Edward County: "I have some cherry trees that have grown rapidly until the past few weeks. Then the leaves became spotted with brown and some wilted and died. So that the trees seem almost dead. Cannot find any borers. What is it and the cure?" There are two forms of rust, or blight, that affect stone fruits. One comes in brown spots that soon drop out leaving holes in the leaves, and is called from this the shot-hole fungus. Another form is the general rusting of the leaves. Both should have the same treatment. That is, spray the trees as soon as the leaves come out, with Bordeaux mixture, and repeat every two weeks till the middle of July. This will usually keep the leaves healthy.

Prince Edward County: "I am a young farmer, and read your columns in The Times-Dispatch with great interest and profit. This year I have not enough stable manure to use on my lettuce. What is the best fertilizer to use? How much nitrate of soda to use at a dressing and how often? Have been using ten loads of manure and 400 pounds of a potato fertilizer. In 1912 I got \$120 net from this piece and this year \$100. Can you tell me why? Had I been able to stop it from seeding, I could have made \$250. Soil, light gray with reddish clay subsoil. Do not permit planting lettuce year after the same land."

Use 1,000 pounds an acre of the fertilizer advised for cabbages to a Mecklenburg County correspondent. Large growers of lettuce fill the soil with old rotten manure, and after setting the plants add the above between the rows and work it in. Running to seed is caused by stunting the plants and the increasing heat of the weather. Grow them rapidly early in the season by liberally fertilization, and add during the growth nitrate of soda at rate of 150 pounds an acre. Get the plants early, so as to head before hot weather.

Harvesting Peanuts. Hanover County: "Even is the proper time to harvest peanuts planted in May. Having a small quantity, I would like to know if a small quantity can be pulled from the vines and dried in a shed instead of shelling?" Lift the peanuts, tops and roots, as soon as the leaves are evidently ripe. Do not pull from the vine till they have been properly cured, and the best way to cure them is to stack around poles with nuts inside and tops out. This will make the nuts cure bright white exposed to the light they will cure dark in color.

Oats After Corn and Peas. "A field now in corn and peas I wish to sow to oats, and would like to know the best way to do it. The peas are about knee high now. Will it sour the land to plow them under after the corn is cut and shocked?" With a heavy growth of peas on the land I would not plow them under for oats or any winter grain, as it will be hard to get the land settled and compacted, and there will be more winter killing from sowing on loose and puffy soil. Better mow the peas after cutting the corn and cure them for hay. Then disk the stubble fine, going over and over in both directions so as to prepare all the soil except where the shocks actually stand. Then apply with the oats 400 pounds of acid phosphate or Thomas phosphate an acre and drill in from one and a half to two bushels of oats, the thinner seed on strong land and more on thinner soil.

Sweet Potatoes Too Rank. Isle of Wight County: "My big Jersey sweet potatoes are all gone to vines and no potatoes. Can you tell me anything to do? I never saw such a growth of vines. I broke the land eight inches deep, ran off rows four feet apart and filled them full of nice compost. Then I put fifty pounds of potash an acre and covered it all and let stand till about a week before I set the sprouts. Then I ran a plow down the row and stirred all up well and applied 400 pounds of 5-5-5 fertilizer an acre." It is very evident what is the matter with the potatoes. You have overdone the matter of preparation and fertilizing. That is, with the compost and the fertilizer with 5 per cent ammonia you have rotten an excess of nitrogen. If, after using the compost and potash, you had simply applied 400 to 500 pounds of acid phosphate an acre, you would have had more potatoes. They may make some yet, for the Big Stem Jersey is not as early as some of our yams. But there is now nothing that you can do to help them. In the first place you plowed too deep for sweet potatoes, and will always have better shaped roots by plowing not over five inches deep. In

fact, I had rather depend on commercial fertilizer alone than to use compost made of manure. The chief needs of the sweet potato crop are phosphorus and potassium, and a good application of acid phosphate and sulphate of potash with a very little nitrate of soda to give an early start, will make more and better sweet potatoes than manure. You simply overdid the thing.

Growing Vegetable Plants. "I am thinking of raising early cabbage and tomato plants for sale next spring. Would it be all right to sow cabbage seed in rows in frame and cover with cotton cloth, ventilating and giving them sunshine on warm days. You can sow seed of the Wakefield cabbage about the middle of September, and as soon as large enough transplant them into the frame, setting them deep enough to cover the stem and about two inches apart all over the frame. Then the chief thing is to keep them from growing and getting tender. They should remain dormant through the winter. Cabbage plants do not mind any cold above 20 degrees, and the cloth should be kept off till the nights threaten to go below 25, and if it is frozen the frame open in every sunny day, even if it is freezing some, the object, as I have said, is to prevent any growth that will make the plants tender. Plants treated in this way can be set out in February and March, while for heading very early it is best to plant them in the fall in open furrows. But if you winter in, they always transplant to the frames and do not try to winter them where the seed are sown, as the stems will be exposed and will be burst by frost.

Sowing Crimson Clover. Halifax County: "I have some land that I wish to plow as soon as rain will make it soft enough and sow crimson clover. How late can I sow the clover here, eleven miles north of the North Carolina line, on land that will make eight barrels of corn an acre? Will 400 pounds of acid phosphate an acre?" It will be best to get the clover seed sown during September, but in your section it can be sown up to the middle of October with a good prospect of success. If the crop is grown to turn for corn next spring, it will pay to use the 400 pounds of acid phosphate an acre.

Nut Grass. "Please tell me how to get rid of nut grass on black bottom land." Have only a few small spots yet. The way to kill any plant is to absolutely prevent its making green leaves above ground. That is the way I got rid of nut grass. The land I bought for a garden was infested with it, and I determined not to allow it to grow. So I chopped it off as soon as it showed. This means that I chopped it off daily. Finally gave up, and now nut grass is the scurriest weed in my garden. It is claimed that planting the land in sweet potatoes will kill the nut grass. I have not tried this. But no plant will long survive if you simply prevent its making green leaves above ground. Nut grass seeds late in the season, and there are many more plants that come from the seed than from the roots.

Sundry Queries. Henrico County: "I would say in relation to some questions that fees can be driven by pennyroyal scattered about the house, and sulphur will drive out rats and mice. A Richmond seed house uses sulphur to keep the mice from the seed. Now I will ask some questions. Does ragweed or pigweed, which I suppose is the same thing, indicate that the land does not need potash where it grows profusely? What is the cause of watermelons of all sizes having a black rot, first at the end and then spreading till the melon is destroyed? How is the best way to plant watermelons and cantaloupes? Can they be planted in the same ground another year? I very much doubt that pennyroyal would clear premises that are infested with fleas. If the dogs and cats are kept clear of them there will be few in the house. I have no trouble with mice and rats, with some good cats. Ragweed and pigweed are two very different plants, and, like many other plants, they grow more strongly in land well supplied with plant food than in poor soil, but that their rank growth especially shows plenty of potash, I think, is very uncertain. As a rule, strong clay soils will be found abundantly supplied with potash in an insoluble shape, and this can be released for plant use by an occasional liming and the growth of legume crops for increasing the humus in the soil, since it is found that this organic decay and the humic acids will also release potash. Light sandy soils are apt to be deficient in potash, and black swamp soils are especially lacking in it. The red clays of the Virginia Piedmont have a perfectly inexhaustible supply of potash. The rot you mention in the watermelons is doubtless anthracnose. It is carried by seed from diseased melons, and is very similar to, if not identical with, the anthracnose that attacks snap beans, and diseased beans may communicate it to the melons. To prevent it, get seed from the best fruit. Where I live there are thousands of melons planted in cantaloupes and watermelons every year.

For cantaloupes light sandy soil is preferred, as heavy soil does not make sweet ones. The land is prepared soon after New Year's, and deep furrows run out five feet apart. These furrows are filled half full of stable manure and are left in that state till planting time so that the fresh city manure used will get somewhat rotten. Then in spring about 1,000 pounds an acre of a high-grade fertilizer is spread on the manure and furrow turned over it. Then, from each side, the bed is then flattened somewhat and the seed are planted in continuous rows with a garden seed drill. When a good stand is had and the plants are past the bugs they are thinned to eighteen or twenty inches apart. As they start to run a small handful of nitrate of soda is scattered around each hill and the cleanest of cultivation made. When the fruit begins to set crimson clover seed is sown over the whole plot as a winter cover for the land. Watermelons are planted in hills made by checking the land 8x16 feet, and manure and fertilizer put in the hills and covered and the seed planted, using plenty of seed and thinning out to two plants, and fertilized in the same way as the cantaloupes. But never put manure on the same land the next season.

Wilt Disease of Tomatoes. "Is there any cure or preventive of the wilt disease in tomatoes and egg plants?" An application of lime seems temporarily to check the tomato infected, but planting the same in the next spring showed that the effect was only temporary. The only thing that produces good result is the breeding of resistant strains. Take seed from plants that remain healthy while the plants around them wilt, and in this way a strain can be bred up that will resist the wilt. The little toes all seem to be immune, and might be used in breeding with larger fruits.

BIG TIME NEARLY A BANKRUPTCY

Tammany Leader Still Missing, and Court Action Shows His Financial Condition.

New York, September 12.—Representative Timothy D. Sullivan, who disappeared from his brother's home at Williams Bridge September 10, still was missing to-day. Reports that he was in a sanatorium at Brewster, N. Y., under the care of a New York physician were declared by the physician to-day to be unfounded. An attorney for committee, which was put in charge of Mr. Sullivan's estate when he was adjudged incompetent, certified to-day that the former political leader was on the verge of bankruptcy. This statement surprised Mr. Sullivan's friends, most of whom believed he was worth at least \$1,000,000. The decline regarding Mr. Sullivan's finances was made when the change in his estate appeared before a Supreme Court justice to appoint a receiver for the payment of a note for \$4,500 alleged to have been executed by Sullivan.

BRADSTREET'S REVIEW

New York, September 12.—Bradstreet's to-morrow will say: The events of the week spell progress along generally favorable lines. Chief among these features were the expansion in fall jobbing trade shown at most centers, the breaking of the drought in the corn belt; too late in the season for yield, but checking further deterioration and helpful to late forage crops, pastures, stock water supplies and fall seeding; the ending, generally speaking, of the uncertainty by the passage of that bill in the Senate, the realization, through the government report of a record yield of wheat and of average yields of most other crops except corn; lower temperatures, stimulating to retail trade and enlarged movements of cotton and spring wheat, which tend to improve collections in sections affected, though room for further improvement is still ample. Enlargement in jobbing trade is reported from all leading markets. Leading activity, but in first and second hands, has been the cotton goods division, in which staple goods have been freely, indeed, eagerly, bought despite successive advances in prices. Second only to cotton fabrics in strength is the knit goods division, which notes larger re-order business for fall, and output reported insufficient to fill demands. Silk and linen goods have also been active, and even woollens have had a better tone, with opening of dress goods for spring at low prices freely patronized. Raw textiles are active as a whole.

Among the large industries, coal is in better shape, helped by seasonable weather; demand fully equals mine output, and while iron and steel in finished lines are irregular or weak in price, the report of the leading interest shows smaller than expected reductions in orders on hand in August, and basic pig iron is more active, with prices in general at firm levels.

Business failures for the week ending September 11, were 255, which compared with 172 last week and 231 a year ago.

WEEKLY COTTON REVIEW

New York, September 12.—The intense excitement and activity which developed in the cotton market following the September crop report have subsided to some extent during the past week. General business has probably been resisted to a considerable extent by uncertainty as to the final action of Washington on the cotton futures tax, and fluctuations have been irregular, with prices showing a tendency to ease off under realizing or liquidation. The extremely small views of the crop based on the latest government condition figures have probably been modified to some extent by the favorable average of private crop advisers from the Eastern belt, and while some doubt is expressed as to the benefit of rains in the Southwest, the thorough breaking of the drought is supposed to have at least checked deterioration in Texas and Oklahoma. In addition to this somewhat less pessimistic view of the crop, selling has doubtless been encouraged by unfavorable trade advice abroad, which have naturally rendered a ready absorption of early new crop receipts more doubtful at advancing prices, and the heavy ginning returns up to September 1st were regarded as pointing to a heavy movement during August. Reports have reached here that South German weavers are to curtail their production 20 per cent for three months beginning with the 1st of next January, while several cables have been received from Liverpool claiming that trade in Manchester was on the decline. Including the total crop moved into these reports colored to some extent by reports from New Orleans of a poor demand for ocean freights. Many of the opinions heard in local circles, however, have reflected a reactionary rather than an unduly bullish view of the situation. And at to-day's closing of \$3.40 from the high records of last week, there was an active demand, much of which was attributed to trade interests. Spinners are still said to be heavily short against their respective needs, and bullish disposition of the market is predicted by some observers in the event of further declines, while they also predict that unusual nervousness will develop with the approach of the frost period.

Hester's Statement.

New Orleans, La., September 12.—Secretary Hester's weekly New Orleans Cotton Exchange statement, issued before the close of business to-day, shows an increase in the movement into sight for the past seven days of 55,000 over the seven days ending September 12, last year.

The amount brought into sight for the week ending this afternoon is stated at 296,328 against 240,413 for the seven days ending this day last year. This brings the total crop moved into sight for the twelve days of the new season to 454,851 against 375,600 last year.

The movement since September 1 shows receipts at all United States ports 327,044 against 261,653 last year; interior stocks in excess of September 1, 42,578 against 41,035 last year; Southern mill takings, 86,000 against 63,82 last year. Foreign exports of cotton since September 1 have been 229,401 against 163,981 last year. The total takings of American mills North and South and Canada thus far for the season have been 122,952 against 105,572. Since the close of the commercial year stocks at American ports and the twenty-nine leading Southern interior centers have increased 101,498 against an increase for the same period last season of 141,547, and are now 78,445 smaller than at this date last year. And interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far for the new crop, the supply to date is 841,000 against 740,331 for the same period last year.

This Book Can Bring You the First Prize, \$300.00

The Booklovers' Contest Catalogue. It is a list of 5,000 book titles, alphabetically arranged. Seventy-seven of these titles are the very ones that the seventy-seven contest pictures were drawn to represent. Don't you think you could win one of the great awards if you had a Catalogue?

How to Fit the Ten Starred Titles in the Catalogue to the Ten Circled Pages in the Answer Book

FIRST. Go through the new Contest Catalogue, which is an alphabetical list of book titles with the names of their authors, and from which have been selected the titles to the seventy-seven pictures, and you will find ten of the titles marked for you with a star. These are the correct titles.

SECOND. Then look in your Answer Book and you will find a large circle on the top of each of the ten pages.

THIRD. The ten starred titles in the Catalogue fit the ten pages of the Answer Book with the circle. Now paste the daily picture in its proper place in the Answer Book, and the ten circled pages will contain the pictures that fit the "stars."

FOURTH. That's all there is to it. All you really have to do is to tell the book titles to sixty-seven pictures.

FIFTH. The ten starred titles in the Catalogue fit the ten circled pages in the Answer Book.

Here Are the Prizes \$1,200.00 IN GOLD

Divided Into Fifty Different Awards



Second Prize is \$200 in Gold.

Third Prize is \$150 in Gold.

Fourth Prize is \$100 in Gold.

Fifth Prize is \$50 in Gold.

Sixth Prize is \$50 in Gold.

Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Prizes are \$25 each in Gold.

Eleventh to Twentieth Prizes are \$10 each in Gold.

Twenty-first to Fiftieth Prizes are \$5.00 each in Gold.

USE THIS ORDER BLANK FOR CATALOGUE

If you cut this order form, fill it out and send or bring it in with the sum designated, you will receive the Official Copyrighted Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles, and seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures in the contest. In the catalogue are all the correct titles to the seventy-seven pictures. Catalogues, 35 cents at this office, 40 cents by mail.

Do Not Send Stamps or Silver. Send Check or Money Order.

Booklovers' Contest Editor,

The Times-Dispatch:

Inclosed find 40 cents, for which send me a Booklovers' Contest Catalogue of about 5,000 book titles and the seven certificates redeemable for the first thirty-five pictures.

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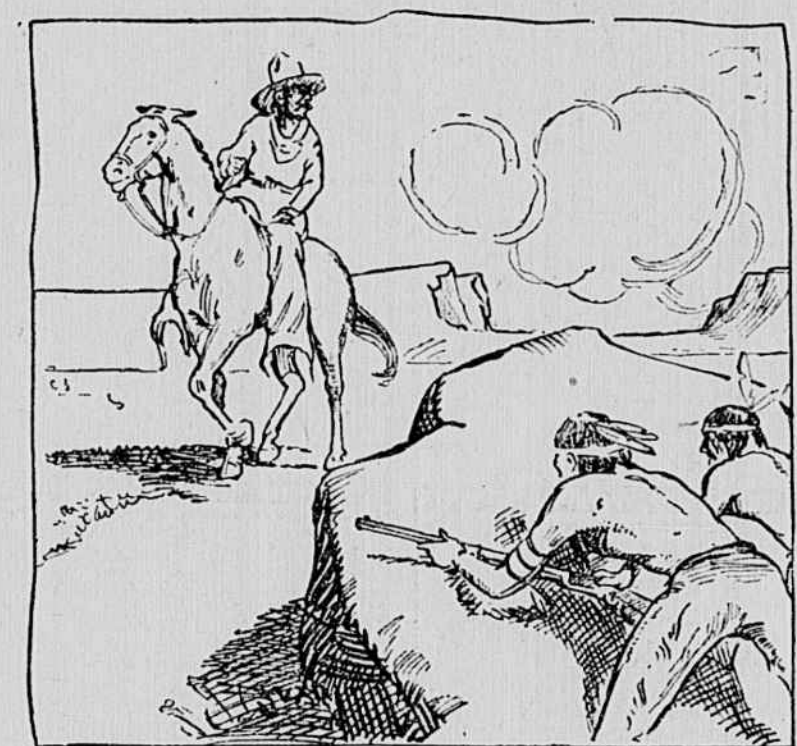
City

Safeguarding the Contest

Entire supervision of this contest will be turned over to three of the city's well-known men, whose names will be announced later. These Booklovers' Contest Judges will have immediate and personal charge of the contest game, certifying to the list of correct titles, conducting the checking of the sets of answers and approving the selection of the winning sets.

The principal features in connection with this contest are copyrighted by the Booklovers' Contest Co., San Francisco, Cal.

The Times-Dispatch's Great \$1200.00 Gold Booklovers' Contest Picture No. 49 Date, September 13th.



What Book Does This Picture Represent? Write Title and Name of Author in Form Below

Title

Author

Your Name

Street and Number

City or Town

TOTAL NUMBER OF PICTURES, 77. Contest began July 27th. Each day a different picture appears in this space. Cut them out. Save them until the last picture appears on October 11th. Don't send in partial lists. Wait until you have all the answers to the 77. Read Rules, Daily Story and Special Announcements in another part of this paper. It will help you win a prize. Extra pictures and coupons of any date that have appeared may be had at 2c. Enter to-day without registering your name. Merely Save Pictures and Coupons as they appear.

GET AN ANSWER BOOK (It Contains 77 Double Pages) AND 35 PICTURES FREE

You can make ten answers to each picture, yet only need but one copy of each picture.

On the upper page you paste a picture. On the lower section you write from one to ten book titles which you have selected for the picture pasted above.

You save time, labor and expense with an Answer Book, and it helps you to win.

USE THIS ORDER FORM FOR THE ANSWER BOOK.

Booklovers' Contest Editor,

The Times-Dispatch:

Find herewith 80 cents (75 cents at office), for which deliver to me your Answer Book and six certificates, returnable as the pictures appear in the contest for Pictures Nos. 36 to 70.

Name

Street and No.

City

Do not send stamps or silver. Send check or money order.